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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/609,185	06/30/2000	Hiroyuki Fujita	S004-4040	2679

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, HOAN C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2871

DATE MAILED: 01/16/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/609,185

Applicant(s)

FUJITA ET AL.

Examiner

HOAN C. NGUYEN

Art Unit

2871

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 7 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☒ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

2. Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Fujii et al. (US5914763A).

Fujii et al. (Figs. 1, 4-7, 11-13) disclose a display device comprising:

- an insulating/glass substrate 311 on which display electrodes and wiring electrode are formed (col. 14, lines 61-65);
- an opposing substrate 312 opposed to the insulating substrate;

- a display material 350 contained in a spacing between the insulating substrate and the opposing substrate in a sealing manner 36 (col. 13, lines 7-17);

wherein

- the wiring electrodes 41 (Figs. 4-7) are metallized by ITO plating/film, and each of portions of the wiring electrodes extending across a contour line of the opposing substrate as Fig. 12A-B shown (claim 1);
- the dummy electrode 45 (Fig. 4, col. 10, lines 47-60) is provided outside the outmost one of the wiring electrode; the dummy electrodes are provided outside the opposite-end wiring electrode wiring electrodes in each of the wiring electrode groups as Figs. 7B and 7C (claim 4). The dummy electrode is also formed parallel to the outmost wiring electrode (claim 5).

wherein

the dummy electrode 46 (Fig. 5) is placed between the wiring electrode 41, the spacing between the dummy electrodes 45/46 and the wiring electrodes 41; therefore, the dummy electrode 46 and the outmost wiring electrode 41-8 is smaller than the spacing between the spacing between the outmost electrode and the inner wiring electrode next to the outmost electrode (Fig. 5). However, the spacing between the dummy electrode 45 and the outmost electrode 41-8 is equal to the spacing between the outmost wiring electrode and the inner wiring electrode next to the outmost wiring electrode (claim 3).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sukegawa et al. (US5636329A).

Sukegawa et al. (col. 1, 28) disclose the active-matrix type liquid crystal display (AM-LCD) device, which conventionally comprises as a prior art:

- an insulating/glass substrate on which display electrodes/pixel electrodes are formed;
- an opposing substrate opposed to the pixel substrate for providing the gap, in which inserts a display material and sealing manner;
- a semiconductor chip/driver IC formed in a tap-carrier-package (TCP) for supplying signals to the display electrodes.

Sukegawa et al. have invented the AM-LCD device further comprising:

- a group of pads 9 arranged on insulating substrate so that as to corresponding to connection terminals of the semiconductor chip on TCP 31;
- a group of check pads 8 provided between the display electrodes in display portion for breakdown checking;

- wiring electrodes 2 for established electrical connections between display electrodes and said group of check pads 8 corresponding to the semiconductor terminals and electrical connections between said group of pads 9 corresponding the semiconductor chip terminals; wherein the group of check pads are arranged in the straight row or column since the check pads or pads in terminal portions provided to the periphery of insulating substrate.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further modify invented the AM-LCD device as Sukegawa et al. disclosed with a display material contained in spacing between insulating substrates in a sealing manner for modulating the light with supplied signals.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claim 7 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Morita et al. (US6064222A) published May 2000 disclose in Fig. 31 the group of check pads A1-A8 arranged in a straight row, but not between the display electrodes and group of pads, which correspond to connection terminals.

Therefore, the claim 7 is allowable subject matter because there is no prior art teaches some of the group of pads corresponding to the semiconductor chip terminals form a part of the group of check pads.

Conclusion


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HOAN C. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (703)306-0472. The examiner can normally be reached on MONDAY-THURSDAY:8:00AM-4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, SIKES L WILLIAM can be reached on (703)308-4842. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)7468178 for regular communications and (703)308-5841 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)308-0530.

HOAN C. NGUYEN
Examiner
Art Unit 2871

chn
January 7, 2002


William L. Sikes
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800